

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT LOME 2761 ACTION SECSTATE DEC 15.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOME 2761

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO, ELAB, PORG, US, TO, XA

SUBJECT: MEETING OF AFRICAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF ILO

REF: STATE 276287

1. ELEVEN DAY LOME (DECEMBER 1-11) MEETING OF GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYER, AND WORKER MEMBERS OF AFRICAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF ILO, REPRESENTING SOME 25 AFRICAN NATIONS, CONCLUDED ITS BLAND DELIBERATIONS A DAY AHEAD OF SCHEDULE WITHOUT MENTION OF U.S. LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW FROM ORGANIZATION. CONTRARY TO DEPARTMENT'S EXPECTATIONS (REFTEL) THIS ITEM NOT RPT NOT INCLUDED ON AGENDA. ACCORDING U.S. OBSERVERS PRESENT THROUGHOUT LOME CONFERENCE, QUESTION OF OUR INTENT TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO WAS NOT EVEN TOPIC OF CORRIDOR DISCUSSION.

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2. PROBABLY MOST CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE ARISING WAS QUESTION OF RELEASE FROM PRISON OF ETHIOPIAN WORKERS REPRESENTATIVE, BEYENE SOLOMON. AT ONSET OF LOME MEETING WORKERS GROUP PASSED MOTION TO SEND CABLE TO GOE REQUESTING SOLOMON'S IMMEDIATE RELEASE. MOTION, HOWEVER, SIDETRACKED ON GROUNDS CABLE MUST BE SENT IN NAME OF ENTIRE AFRICAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHICH REJECTED BOTH SENDING OF CABLE AND PROPOSED TO SEND ILO DELEGATION TO ADDIS ABABA.

3. SIXTH SESSION ENDED WITH RECOMMENDATION THAT GOVERNING BODY OF ILO PLACE QUESTION OF HARMONIZATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES ON AGENDA OF FIFTH AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF ILO, ACCEPTANCE OF COMMITTEE REPORT OF RATIFICATION AND APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR STANDARDS, AND URGED ILO TO ADJUST LEVEL OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA TO REFLECT PRESENT DAY NEEDS.

4. AS REQUESTED REFTEL, EMBASSY AIR POUCHING AF/I SIXTH SESSION DOCUMENTS AND LOCAL PRESS ARTICLES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT PASS PARAS ONE TO THREE TO AF AND OTHER POSTS AT ITS DISCRETION.
YOUNG UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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